

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
November 22, 2018



BRIAN HARMAN (-9)

Q. (In progress) greens in regulation for the second time in your career. How would you assess the day?

BRIAN HARMAN: I hit it well. Anytime you have to chip, it's a fun day. But I've got to get my putter straightened out, I didn't putt good, so go do some work and try to get it. The greens are just really fast and it's easy to get defensive. Scores are going to be low, so can't be defensive.

Q. You're a Georgia Bulldog, you live here in St. Simons Island. What are the complications and the pluses of having a home game?

BRIAN HARMAN: I love it, man. I've got my parents staying with me, my caddie's staying with me, we've been cooking every night. It used to kind of bug me a little bit, it's kind of like I wanted to play well so bad, but as I've gotten older, I've just kind of embraced it. It's just a fun week, man. Let's have fun, let's have a good time. It seems to be helping a little bit.

Q. What do you guys eat?

BRIAN HARMAN: We had elk tenderloin two nights ago, we had tomahawk pork chops and then we had beef tenderloin last night, so we're eating well.

Q. You've won twice in your career, you've played the Playoffs eight straight years in a row. How do you assess your career at this point?

BRIAN HARMAN: You know, I don't think about it a lot. I try to keep moving forward and I just kind of count the chips up at the end. I don't want to think about the end, I don't really want to think about the beginning. I'm just trying to win golf tournaments.

Q. (Inaudible) rest of the round to be aggressive?

BRIAN HARMAN: Yeah, I didn't feel very aggressive out there. I was hitting a lot of good shots, but the greens had me kind of defensive. I played out here a good bit so I'm used to the greens being a little slower, but they're slick. They're tough and they're really fast. They're rolling great, but they're fast. It just kind of had me on the defensive side, so I'm going to try to do some work and try to stay aggressive because it's going to take some more birdies.

Q. You played well here in the past. We've always made a big deal that you live here. When you look at it, is it familiarity with the golf course or is it just a course that suits

your style of play?

BRIAN HARMAN: I think it suits me. I've always been a pretty good wind player and the wind usually blows. It didn't blow today, but obviously being familiar and having a bunch of people that I know, a lot of friendly faces helps.

Q. When you look at what you've been able to do in this event, what would it mean to be able to win here?

BRIAN HARMAN: It would mean the world, man. All of them are important. This one would be really special.

Q. What's changed since maybe June or so?

BRIAN HARMAN: Yeah, gosh, I had a really bad start of the year last year. I was really tired, just mentally kind of fatigued and I was even thinking like, man, this is just so golf, golf, golf, and I was really tired.

I've always -- I worked with Jack Lumpkin for forever. I started working a little bit with Justin Parsons and he just kind of gave us a shot in the arm and just kind of helped me propel. I started working with him around THE PLAYERS, had a good week at THE PLAYERS and was really proud of the way that I dug in and played well the last half of last year.

Q. Was there any start of anxiety possibly --

BRIAN HARMAN: Oh, yeah, for sure. I mean, crippling anxiety.

Q. Really?

BRIAN HARMAN: For sure, yeah. It's always -- it's always there. This wraparound schedule, it's hard not to think about it, but I think the more you embrace it and the more that you just kind of come through it, it's like some years, some years it's all you can think about and some years it's like it never happened, right? It's ying and yang. There's always new challenges, there's always something you're having to overcome almost.

Q. What did you and Justin maybe change or work on?

BRIAN HARMAN: You know, I just didn't really feel like myself anymore. I felt like I was trying to be something I wasn't. He just kind of opened up, helped me be more creative with my ball-striking and kind of just freed me up to do some stuff that I can do.

Q. What were you trying to be like, less shapey?

BRIAN HARMAN: Yeah, I think so. I was trying to like maybe make it too simple, but then like I just didn't know if I was challenging myself enough to hit different shots because that's

kind of how I grew up playing.

Q. Jeremy said that basically Travelers, you sent him a text, you said it ends now, you were going to go out that Sunday morning --

BRIAN HARMAN: Yeah, that was Sunday of Minnesota, because I had played well the first two days and then I didn't play well the third day and I was like embarrassed because I was almost thinking about missing the second cut. I was like, man, I should be trying to win this golf tournament, not worrying about what's going to happen. So I just made the choice that day that whatever happened, I was going to act like I had been there before.

Q. What did that round mean --

BRIAN HARMAN: I think I made -- I don't know if I made any bogeys, shot 6, 7 under, something like that and finished seventh. That kind of locked up my card for the year and kind of took a little bit of the pressure off and just let me know that like I really did need to change the way I was thinking about things and not get so bogged down in where I was.

Q. What did the good finish at Greenbrier do for your confidence early in the year?

BRIAN HARMAN: Well, it's big because I took a month off, or I was forced to take a month off. I wasn't in any of the Playoffs past the first. I made a point to really take time away from the game. I took two or three weeks, didn't touch a club, and then as I was getting ready to come back, we had to evacuate for the hurricane. So getting to Greenbrier, I was like, man, I'm going to be rusty, but I was engaged, I was really excited to be there and I played well. That just kind of gives me a little freedom to know that I can take some time off when I need to try to avoid getting too bogged down and too, you know, just golf, golf, golf.

It's tough, man. I mean, think about up until -- up until the Playoffs last year, yeah, this past year, that was my first month off, continuous month off in three years. So three years straight like having to get ready for something every single month whereas like my rookie year, you could take three or four months off and you could show up in Hawaii and be fresh and ready to go. It's just a different dynamic. I think it's probably why the Tour's getting younger, just because things are kind of ramped up.

Q. Just from like (inaudible)?

BRIAN HARMAN: Yeah, it's easy, it's a fine line out here. You just take a little bit of a mental break, and I did. I just took a little bit of a break just because I was tired of, you know, grinding all the time. Take a little bit of a break and your game takes a hit and all of a sudden, 20th in the world.

Q. You and Harris, kind of parallel; you had a little bit of a comeback first and now he's having one, too.

BRIAN HARMAN: Right.

Q. Did you guys kind of help each other through that at all?

BRIAN HARMAN: Not really, just because it's so -- every struggle is so unique, like everyone has their different deals that they have to go through. You can't imagine as a junior golfer the things you have to deal with as an adult golfer. It's just a completely different thing, like you have a family, you travel. It's a lot different.

Q. That week in Minneapolis, was that the turning point for you, or was that a low point?

BRIAN HARMAN: You know, I had a really nice -- I had a really nice week in Travelers. I think that was kind of the turning point because I finished sixth or so there. But then I missed the cut the next week, but then I played really well there and I played okay at John Deere, so I think Travelers probably.